

NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

MARGARET SCHINDLER BYRANT joined the staff of The University of Iowa Libraries in 1932 as librarian of the Foreign Language Libraries. The Ranney Collection was one of her responsibilities also. After leaving Iowa City in 1935, she was on the staffs of the Goucher College Library, the Library of Congress, and the Library of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, where she was successively head of reference and chief of the Division of Bibliography. She presently lives in Arlington, Virginia.

OWEN GINGERICH, a native of Washington, Iowa, is professor of astronomy and the history of science at Harvard University. His work on a detailed census of the first two editions of Copernicus's *De revolutionibus* (1543 and 1566) has recently taken him to many libraries throughout the world. He is the author of articles in scientific publications—for example, "Copernicus and the Impact of Printing" in *Vistas in Astronomy* (1975)—and he has edited *Frontiers in Astronomy* (1970) and *The Nature of Scientific Discovery* (1975).

PHILIP D. JORDAN, author of *William Salter, Western Torchbearer* (1939), has been studying the Iowa Band for many years. This band of eleven young men from Andover Theological Seminary came to Iowa in 1843 to transplant Congregationalism to the Iowa frontier. Jordan's article, the first detailed account of Alden to appear in print, throws new light on frontier economic and social conditions and on the spiritual circumstances of the time. Professor Jordan has been living in Burlington, Iowa, since his retirement from the University of Minnesota.

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The fifteenth annual spring dinner of the Friends will be held on Thursday evening, April 19, 1979. The speaker will be John P. Matthews of Queen's University, Kingston, Canada, senior editor of the Disraeli Project. The subject of his talk will be "The Hunt for the Disraeli Letters."

Life Membership in the Friends is awarded to patrons whose gifts of rare books or financial contributions are at least \$1,000, and to sustaining members whose annual contributions of \$100 may become equivalent to this. Other annual memberships are solicited as follows: contributing memberships \$25, regular memberships \$10, student memberships \$5. Institutions are accepted as regular members.

The sonnet to Galileo on the back cover is reproduced from the Library's copy of Isaac Bullart's *Academie des Sciences et des Artes* (1682), volume 2.

S O N N E T.

*Pour un Esprit si pur la Terre estoit impure ;
Cét Homme tout celeste est monté dans les Cieux ;
Il y void clairement ces flambeaux radieux ,
Dont nous n'avons icy qu'une lumiere obscure.*

*De ces voutes d'azur la noble Architecture
Ravit également son esprit & ses yeux ;
Et l'élevant plus haut que sa propre nature ,
Luy fait connoistre enfin la nature des Dieux.*

*Il me semble desia qu'au travers de ce verre ,
Dont son art approchoit le Ciel, l'Onde , & la Terre ,
Je le vois éclater au front du Firmament :*

*Et si l'on se transforme en la chose qu'on aime ;
Comme il fut amoureux des Astres seulement ,
Que le grand GALILÉE est un Astre luy-mesme.*

COLLETET.